

Appln. No. 10/019,992

Attorney Docket No. 10541-929

I. Listing of Claims

1-18. Canceled.

19. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a contour of a planiform piece for an interior trim of a motor vehicle, the method comprising:

cutting said planiform piece with a first knife to simultaneously produce at least an apex having a rounded profile P and a first portion of a first straight side extending from said apex; and

cutting said planiform piece with a second knife to produce a second portion of the first straight side, the second knife having a different configuration than the first knife and overlapping a part of the first portion of the first straight side formed by the first knife, and

wherein said first and second knife knives function sequentially, the first and second knives having cutting edges that are non-continuous with each other.

20. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 19, wherein, said step of cutting with the first knife includes cutting a first portion of a second straight side extending from said apex, and cutting said planiform piece using a third knife to produce a second portion of the second straight side, the third ~~cutting-means~~ knife having a different configuration than the first knife and overlapping a part of the first portion of the second straight side formed by the first knife, said first and third knives functioning sequentially.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 20, wherein said first knife having a continuous cutting edge formed of three parts, a first central part for forming the apex according to the profile P, a second part extending on one side of said first central part for forming the first portion of the first straight side and a third part extending on an opposing side of the first central part for forming the first part of the second straight side.

22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 20, further comprising receiving said piece using a support portion such that the piece can be

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sandwiched, at least over a part of its thickness, between said support and said first, second and third knives.

23. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a contour of a planiform piece for an interior trim of a motor vehicle, the method comprising:

cutting said planiform piece with a first cutting means to simultaneously produce at least an apex having a rounded profile P and a first portion of a first straight side extending from said apex, said step of cutting with the first cutting means includes cutting a first portion of a second straight side extending from said apex;

cutting said planiform piece with a second cutting means to produce a second portion of the first straight side, the second cutting means having a different configuration than the first means and overlapping a part of the first portion of the first straight side formed by the first cutting means;

cutting said planiform piece using a third cutting means to produce a second portion of the second straight side, the third cutting means overlapping a part of the first portion of the second straight side formed by the first cutting means;

receiving said piece using a support portion such that the piece can be sandwiched, at least over a part of its thickness, between said support and said first, second and third cutting means;

said receiving step receiving said piece with a support having a contour including at least a first part, having a profile substantially identical with that of the cutting edge of the first cutting means, and a second and a third part located on either side of said first part of the contour of the support in the prolongation of the latter and having a profile substantially identical, with that of the cutting edges of the second and third cutting means; and

wherein said first and second cutting means function sequentially and wherein said first and third cutting means function sequentially.

24. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a contour of a planiform piece for an interior trim of a motor vehicle, the method comprising:

cutting said planiform piece with a first cutting means to simultaneously produce at least an apex having a rounded profile P and a first portion of a first straight side extending from said apex, said step of cutting with the first cutting

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means includes cutting a first portion of a second straight side extending from said apex;

cutting said planiform piece with a second cutting means to produce a second portion of the first straight side, the second cutting means overlapping a part of the first portion of the first straight side formed by the first cutting means;

cutting said planiform piece using a third cutting means to produce a second portion of the second straight side, the third cutting means overlapping a part of the first portion of the second straight side formed by the first cutting means;

receiving said piece using a support portion such that the piece can be sandwiched, at least over a part of its thickness, between said support and said first, second and third cutting means;

actuating said first, second and third cutting means between two positions in relation to said support, such that a first retracted position in which the cutting edges of said first, second and third cutting means are contiguous and in the prolongation of one another, and facing said first, second and third parts of the contour of the support, and wherein a second position in which the cutting edges are in contact with said support, said first cutting means coming to bear, in a first configuration, against said first part of the contour of the support, and said second and third cutting means coming to bear, in a second configuration, against said second and third parts of the contour of the support; and

wherein said first and second cutting means function sequentially and wherein said first and third cutting means function sequentially.

25. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a contour of a planiform piece for an interior trim of a motor vehicle, the method comprising:

cutting said piece using a first curved knife to simultaneously produce at least an apex and a portion of a first straight side extending tangentially from said apex;

cutting said piece using a second straight knife to produce said first side, said cutting using said second knife overlapping at least part of the portion of the first side produced by the first knife, and wherein said first and second knives function sequentially, the first and second knives having cutting edges that are non-continuous with each other.

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26. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 25, further comprising producing a second straight side of the contour extending tangentially from the apex using the a third knife, said first and third knives functioning sequentially, wherein cutting by said third knife is overlapping cutting by said first cutting means.

27. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 26, wherein cutting said piece using said first knife further comprises cutting the piece with a first curved knife having a continuous cutting edge formed of three parts, including a first central part for forming the apex a second and a third part extending on each side said central part, for portions of said first and second sides.

28. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 27, wherein cutting said piece using the first knife further comprises receiving said piece using a support portion of said first knife such that the piece can be sandwiched, at least over a part of its thickness, between said support and said first cutting means.

29. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 28, wherein receiving said piece using a support portion of said first knife further comprises receiving said piece using a support portion of said first knife having a contour including at least a first part, having a profile substantially identical with that of the first central part of the cutting edge, and including a second and a third part located on either side of said first part in the prolongation of the latter and having a profile substantially identical, with that of the cutting edges of the second and third knives.

30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 29, further comprising actuating said first, second and third knives between two positions in relation to said support, such that a first retracted position in which the cutting edges of said first, second and third knives are contiguous and in the prolongation of one another, and facing said first, second and third parts of the contour of the support, and wherein a second position in which the cutting edges are in contact with said support, said first knife coming to bear, in a first configuration, against said first part of the contour of the support, and said second and third knives coming to bear, in a

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second configuration, against said second and third parts of the contour of the support.

31. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a contour of a planiform piece of a motor vehicle, the method comprising:

cutting said planiform piece with a first knife to simultaneously produce an apex and a first straight side, the first straight side extending generally tangentially from the apex;

cutting said planiform piece with a second knife to produce another portion of the first straight side, the second knife overlapping a portion of the first straight side produced by the first knife; and

wherein the first and second knives have cutting edges that are non-continuous with each other and function sequentially.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31 further comprising:

wherein the first knife forms a second straight side, generally opposed from the first straight side, the second straight side extending from the apex;

cutting said planiform piece with a third knife to produce another portion of the second straight side, the third knife overlapping the portion of the second straight side produced by the first knife; and

wherein the first and third knives have cutting edges that are non-continuous with each other and function sequentially.